United Nations A/61/649–S/2006/1005

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
20 December 2006

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 17 and 27

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Letter dated 12 December 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as a representative of the country coordinator of GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova), I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM (ODED-GUAM), adopted by the ODED-GUAM ministerial meeting held in Brussels on 4 December 2006 (see annex I), and a statement by the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Mr. Volodymyr Yel'chenko, on behalf of ODED-GUAM at the fourteenth meeting of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of OSCE, also held in Brussels on 4 December 2006 (see annex II).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Viktor **Kryzhanivskyi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

06-67627 (E) 281206

Annex I to the letter dated 12 December 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM

Brussels, 4 December 2006

The GUAM Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs expresses its serious concern over a so-called "constitutional referendum" scheduled for 10 December 2006 in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Council emphasizes that holding the so-called "referendum" violates the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as relevant norms and principles of international law, and, thus, shall have no legal effect and its results shall be considered null and void.

The Ministers underline that the so-called "referendum" interferes with an ongoing peace process, is designed to impose a fait accompli situation in the region and misleads the international community.

The GUAM Council stresses that such an act runs contrary to the universally recognized standards and values of democracy, rule of law and human rights. Any constitutional document envisaging self-rule for the population of the Nagorno-Karabakh region can be elaborated only through a legal, democratic and peaceful process with the full, equal and direct participation of the entire population of the region consisting of the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities.

The GUAM Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs calls on OSCE participating States and other international organizations to condemn such an illegal act and to support the ongoing efforts aimed at finding a peaceful resolution of the conflict on the basis of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders.

Annex II to the letter dated 12 December 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the head of the delegation of Ukraine, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the OSCE, Volodymyr Yel'chenko, at the fourteenth meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council on behalf of the member States of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM

Brussels, 4 December 2006

On behalf of the members of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM, I would like to express our gratitude to our Belgian hosts for their hospitality and excellent organization of the meeting. We are particularly pleased that these days Brussels has become a capital for yet another organization, which actively promotes security and cooperation in Europe and far beyond. In this connection, let me express our high appreciation to the Belgian chairmanship for its essential activities during the whole year.

Naturally, we also wish to welcome the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain. The GUAM members States wish the incoming Spanish chairmanship every success and vigour in carrying out this demanding task.

The year 2006 has been a landmark year for GUAM. On 23 May, at the GUAM Summit in Kyiv, which was attended by a number of Heads of State and Government, the OSCE Secretary-General and top-ranking officials from OSCE participating States and the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine established the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM as an international regional organization.

The GUAM Heads of State reaffirmed that the priorities of the Organization are the strengthening of democracy and the rule of law, respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms, economic development, ensuring security and stability, protection of the environment, combating international terrorism, aggressive separatism, extremism and transnational organized crime, deepening of the European integration and achievement of sustainable development and well-being of their peoples. These priorities of GUAM fully correspond to the main principles and purposes of OSCE.

GUAM Member States attach great significance to further enhancing the OSCE role as an inclusive and comprehensive security Organization, a forum for political dialogue, a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation and an important cooperative mechanism for promoting the values of democracy, rule of law and human rights throughout the OSCE area and beyond.

It is obvious that OSCE and GUAM efforts in the field of security have a common direction. The settlement of "protracted conflicts" in the OSCE area, in particular in the Transdniestrian region of Moldova, the South Ossetia/Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia of Georgia and the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan,

remains at the top of the comprehensive security agenda of OSCE and continues to be one of the priority objectives of cooperation within GUAM.

From the very beginning of their declared participation in the Helsinki process, the GUAM member States tried to play an essential role in OSCE activities on conflict prevention and resolution. Ukraine, in particular, exercises its functions of mediator and settlement guarantor in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova and is committed to continuing these activities in the future. Our countries believe that the proposals of the President of Ukraine, Victor Yushchenko, "Settlement through democracy", constitute a solid basis for further work. I would like to use this opportunity to reaffirm our support for a plan for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the South Ossetia/Tskhinvali region by the President of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili, as well as for the ongoing activities of the OSCE Minsk Group in the peace process in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan.

We recognize that unresolved conflicts on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova threaten the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of those States, impede the implementation of full-scale democratic reforms and the achievement of sustainable development, jeopardize regional security, negatively impact pan-European integration processes and challenge the entire international community.

We strongly believe that the cooperative security approach of OSCE implies that there is no alternative to the peaceful resolution of these conflicts, which should be based on generally recognized norms and principles of international law, sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of States, as well as on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and OSCE decisions.

The GUAM member States underline the importance of the demilitarization of conflict zones and establishing security in these zones with the assistance of the multinational peacekeeping forces to be deployed there under United Nations or OSCE mandates for creating conditions for the return of populations and for the peaceful coexistence of ethnic communities.

We also welcome this year efforts and new approaches of the Belgian chairmanship aimed at confidence-building in the above-mentioned conflict zones through socio-economic rehabilitation, including by facilitating donors' contributions, democratic development and expedient response to risks and threats.

The GUAM States are following very closely the developments around the resolution of the Kosovo issue. We are convinced that a just and lasting settlement there can be achieved only if the final status agreement is acceptable to the parties involved and is reached on the basis of consensus. In that sense, the decision to continue the talks is a positive step.

The recent so-called "independence referendums" in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova and in the South Ossetia/Tskhinvali region of Georgia, as well as the intention to hold a so-called "constitutional referendum" in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, in our view, pose a major threat and challenge to the stability and continuity of the process of settlement. We therefore welcome the reaction of the OSCE chairmanship, as well as the European Union, the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe and the statements of the

overwhelming majority of OSCE States, which decidedly refused to recognize the results of those referendums in accordance with common OSCE principles.

At the same time, we say to the populations of the separatist regions that European institutions and their member States are ready to do their utmost to speed up settlement processes, while providing substantial economic assistance and legal assurances to people and institutions to guarantee human rights, rule of law, market economy, ethnic language and religious freedom within the reunited State.

Participating States of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM believe that the energy security issues which were brought to the forefront at the beginning of this year are inseparable from regional security and the national security of each participating State. During 2006, this concept has driven the efforts of the OSCE participating States towards a more active implementation of the provisions of 2003 OSCE Maastricht Strategy Document related to energy security. Through a number of concrete steps, we have reaffirmed that OSCE can respond to emerging challenges and add value to concerted efforts of the international community in this field. GUAM member States therefore support the continued involvement of OSCE in the interregional energy dialogue and cooperation.

We believe that the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM and OSCE will further develop fruitful cooperation in promoting security, stability and prosperity in wider Europe.

United Nations A/61/650–S/2006/1008

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
20 December 2006

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 13, 81, 87 and 93

Security Council
Sixty-first year

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Identical letters dated 19 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to draw attention to the public admission of Israeli clandestine development and unlawful possession of nuclear weapons made by the Israeli regime's Prime Minister in an interview broadcast on a German television network on 12 December 2006.

The inaction imposed on the Security Council over the past several decades in addressing the well-documented illicit nuclear weapons programme by the Israeli regime has given the audacity to its Prime Minister not only to explicitly acknowledge possession of nuclear weapons but even to publicly boast, in the above-mentioned interview, about its dangerous nuclear weapons.

It is indisputable that nuclear weapons in the hands of a regime with an unparalleled record of non-compliance with Security Council resolutions and a long and dark catalogue of crimes and atrocities, such as occupation, aggression, militarism, state terrorism and crimes against humanity, poses a uniquely grave threat to regional as well as international peace and security.

The Israeli regime, as the only obstacle for the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free-zone in the Middle East, has constantly and obstinately disregarded international demands and concerns repeatedly raised about its clandestine nuclear weapons programme in different forums, in particular in the review conference of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which have by name called upon the regime to accede to the Treaty immediately and without any condition.

06-67446 (E) 211206

Moreover, the Israeli regime's clandestine development and possession of nuclear weapons not only violate basic principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as numerous General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, but also clearly defy the demand of the overwhelming majority of the States Members of the United Nations that have, time and again, called on the regime to renounce nuclear weapons and accede to the Treaty.

In this regard, as recently as in September 2006, the Heads of State or Government of 118 members of the Non-Aligned Movement urged the Israeli regime "to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, to accede to the Treaty without delay, to place promptly all its nuclear facilities under the full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency according to Security Council resolution 487 (1981) and to conduct its nuclear-related activities in conformity with the non-proliferation regime". The Non-Aligned Movement members also "expressed great concern over the acquisition of the nuclear capability by Israel, which poses a serious and continuing threat to the security of neighbouring and other States, and condemned Israel for continuing to develop and stockpile nuclear arsenals". The same demands have been also constantly made by the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

In view of the above, the Security Council should fulfil its Charter-based responsibility to address such a clear and serious threat to international peace and security and take prompt and appropriate actions accordingly. The Council should, inter alia, condemn the Israeli regime's clandestine development and possession of nuclear weapons, compel it to abandon nuclear weapons, urge it to accede to the Treaty without delay and demand that the regime promptly place all its nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards. Should the Israeli regime fail to do so, the Council must take resolute action under Chapter VII of the Charter to ensure compliance.

The reversal of the hypocritical policy of "strategic ambiguity" by the Israeli regime has removed any excuse — if there ever was any — for continued inaction by the Council in the face of this actual threat to international peace and security. The reaction of the Security Council will show whether the Council is acting, as obliged under Article 24 of the Charter, on behalf of the members of the international community that have made their views abundantly clear on this issue or whether it is merely a tool for a few permanent members that have made no secret of their policy to allow and even encourage the Israeli regime to persist in its lawless behaviour with impunity.

Peace and stability cannot be achieved in the Middle East while the massive Israeli nuclear arsenal continues to threaten the region and beyond.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13, 81, 87 and 93, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Javad **Zarif**

United Nations A/61/651

General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 December 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 27
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 18 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement delivered by Andrei Stratan, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, at the 14th meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, held in Brussels on 4 and 5 December 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 27.

(*Signed*) Alexei **Tulbure**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-67654 (E) 221206

Annex to the letter dated 18 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement delivered by Andrei Stratan, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, at the 14th meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (Brussels, 4 and 5 December 2006)

I would like from the outset to express gratitude to the Belgian authorities for their efforts during the 2006 OSCE Chairmanship. By its contribution to ensuring regional and international security and cooperation, the OSCE remained a stabilizing factor in the area of its responsibility. As far as Moldova is concerned, the OSCE has maintained an engaging cooperation in various fields with my country, from mediating the transnistrian settlement process to implementing a number of assistance projects in Moldova. While Moldova has aligned itself with the statement of my distinguished colleague from Finland on behalf of the EU, I would like to say a few things in my national capacity.

First of all, the Republic of Moldova reiterates its position on the necessity to implement, without delay, the commitments undertaken by the Russian Federation at the OSCE Istanbul Summit. Being a state that prohibits the stationing of foreign military facilities and bases on its territory, the Republic of Moldova proceeds from the understanding that the authorities of the Russian Federation will show respect for the constitutional choice of the people of Moldova – the neutral status of my country. We deeply regret the fact that, in the course of recent months, the Tiraspol administration is completely torpedoing the negotiation process in the "5+2" format and has engaged itself in the exercise of conducting various so-called "referenda", that misinform, primarily, the population from the region.

We express our gratitude to the international community for an unequivocal assessment of these events. At the same time, we welcome the common position of the mediators and observers in the negotiation process – the OSCE, Russian Federation, Ukraine, European Union and United States of America – that the settlement of the transnistrian problem should be based on defining the status of the Transnistrian region, while respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova. It is this very premise that can and must be the fundament for the continuation of the negotiation process. We note with satisfaction the resumption of a sincere dialogue with the Russian Federation on this issue, both at the level of Heads of State, and at that of experts. We believe that this kind of open dialogue could lead to an entirely new and constructive atmosphere in the settlement process. This will allow us to implement those concept proposals, ideas and visions that were put forward by the President of Ukraine, the OSCE, EU, United States of America, as well as the documents adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova in the summer of 2005.

The Republic of Moldova pleads for an active development of confidence building measures between the both banks of the Nistru River. This is a topical issue, since the absolute majority of nearly half a million inhabitants of the Transnistrian region have officially confirmed their Moldovan citizenship, more than seven thousand students from the region are studying in Chisinau, and more than twenty thousand residents of the region are coming freely to work in Chisinau on a daily basis. The absence

of religious, national and other differences, the lack of any reciprocal phobias, represent an excellent ground for the Transnistrian region to finally become open. We call on the Tiraspol authorities to remove all obstacles to the free movement of persons and goods as soon as possible.

I can only regret that such respectable countries, such honorable and trustworthy people have to discuss a conflict, the nature of which is exclusively in an authoritarian system of governance in the transnistrian region, a complete self isolation of the region, a resounding hatred towards the fundamental human rights and freedoms that we share. We are united with the residents of the transnistrian region, frequently misinformed by the separatist propaganda, frightened by the separatist security services, deprived of access to alternative information regarding the real state of affairs. For fifteen years these people survive in desperate conditions, without a chance to neither address a recognized court, get rid of the regime's constant war mongering, nor return to the realities of the 21st century. The orientation of the Republic of Moldova towards European values and standards, close cooperation of our country with the EU on the basis of the Moldova – EU Action Plan represent an excellent basis for solving the conflict within this generally recognized democratic dimension. It is also important that Tiraspol authorities follow the policy of unilateral demilitarization, chosen by the Republic of Moldova. Let me remind that the transnistrian paramilitary forces significantly exceed the military contingent of the Republic of Moldova, despite the fact that the population of the region is seven times smaller than the population of the rest of my country.

The Republic of Moldova is ready to demilitarize also a considerable part of its carabineer troops and border guards. We stand, as we did before, for a peaceful resolution of the conflict and our unilateral demilitarization should only increase the confidence of the mediators and observers that such an approach has no alternative. From our point of view, today, the resources of a peaceful resolution of the transnistrian conflict surpass politically and morally the resources of any military solutions.

The position of principle of the Republic of Moldova is to maximally decrease the military element in the system of ensuring security in the conflict area. We believe that the time is ripe for a transition from this kind of anachronism to an institution of military and civilian observers, acting under an international mandate, preferably that of OSCE. The Republic of Moldova is ready to engage in negotiation with all interested states regarding the practical implementation of such a mandate. As a neutral state we are extremely sensitive to such issues and we would like to see our country in the nearest future free of any form of foreign military or quasi-military presence. And only such a transformation will allow the Republic of Moldova to ratify the Adapted CFE Treaty.

We stress with satisfaction the new environment that dominates today the economic development of the transnistrian region. The common efforts of the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and European Union on the transnistrian segment of the Moldovan-Ukrainian state border proved to be extremely effective. These efforts, undoubtedly, increased the level of economic security of our countries and the responsibility of transnistrian businesses. The fact that practically all transnistrian enterprises have been registered in Chisinau and the uninterrupted conduct of their export-import transactions underscores yet again the correctness of the chosen approach. These entities have traveled the distance from unlawful enterprises to companies that have a real opportunity to conduct business within the legal framework of the Republic of Moldova. In this context we call for the continuation of the EU

Border Assistance Mission to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, and regard it as a guarantee of the security and transparency on this segment of the Moldovan-Ukrainian border.

The Republic of Moldova reiterates its appeal to all OSCE participating states, to the mediators – the OSCE, Russian Federation and Ukraine, to the observers – the European Union and the USA to render the necessary assistance to Moldova in the mentioned dimensions of the conflict settlement. We stand for the soonest possible resumption of the negotiations in the "5+2" format. The transnistrian conflict definitely remains one of the less difficult cases in the list of existing political-territorial disputes. The good will, openness and constructive approach of the position of my country make this task much easier for those who want to honestly help us.

In conclusion, I would like to assure the partners of the Republic of Moldova that my country will continue to undertake all necessary efforts in order to affirm itself as a member of the community of democratic states, as well as a reliable partner within OSCE. We welcome the activity of the OSCE Mission in Moldova and will keep an intense rhythm of cooperation with the team led by Ambassador Louis O'Neill.

We express our gratitude to the Belgian Chairmanship for paying so much attention to the problems of the Republic of Moldova, as well as for its contribution to inform the OSCE community about the situation in my country, including the recent visit of OSCE Ambassadors. I would like to wish every success to my colleague Miguel Ángel Moratinos, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain, in exercising the OSCE Chairmanship during 2007.

United Nations A/61/652

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda items 116 and 117

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2006 and 2007

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego Simancas (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the items entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" and "Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007" and to allocate them to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the items at its 18th and 36th meetings, on 6 November and 21 December 2006. The statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the items are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.18 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the items, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa (A/61/471) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/544).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.18

4. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Enhancing the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa" (A/C.5/61/L.18), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Angola.

06-67880 (E) 211206

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.18 without a vote (see para. 7).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Nigeria (on behalf of Member States of the United Nations that are also members of the African Group) and Brazil.

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Enhancing the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/235 of 23 December 2005,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Recalls* its resolution 59/275 of 23 December 2004, in which it decided that the development of Africa should be among the priorities of the Organization for the period 2006-2007;

3. *Recalls also* its resolutions 57/2 of 16 September 2002 and 57/7 of 4 November 2002, and stresses the important role played by the Economic Commission for Africa in coordinating the activities of the United Nations system at the regional level in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

4. *Recalls further* its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and its commitment to address the special needs of Africa;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Economic Commission for Africa to conduct a comprehensive review aimed at repositioning it to better respond to the challenges facing Africa and to implement the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

6. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General in paragraph 12 of its resolution 60/235 of 23 December 2005, to submit a comprehensive plan of action to strengthen the subregional offices, and notes with appreciation the steps taken to define the role and mission of the subregional offices so as to address the recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services;[3]

7. *Recalls also* paragraphs 9 and 12 of its resolution 60/235 and its request to the Secretary-General, in the context of the plan of action, to ensure that adequate resources are provided to the Economic Commission for Africa and its subregional offices to continue their support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the regional economic communities for Africa, as well as to ensure the full implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

---

[1] A/61/471.
[2] A/61/544.
[3] A/60/120, sect. IX.

8. *Recalls further* its concern expressed in paragraph 8 of its resolution 60/235, and notes that the repositioning exercise and implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services will be addressed through a redeployment of post and non-post resource requirements in the biennium 2006-2007 and that the Secretary-General will address remaining proposals for resources and reorganization in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of his report on the comprehensive information and communication technology strategy of the Organization, to be submitted to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session, to include detailed information on the implementation of paragraph 6 of its resolution 60/235.

United Nations A/61/653

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 118

Programme planning

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Programme planning" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 7th, 8th and 36th meetings, on 17 and 18 October and 21 December 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.7, 8 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-sixth session;[1]

(b) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009, part one (A/61/6 (Part One)) and part two (A/61/6 (Prog. 1-13, 14/Rev.1, 15-27));

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/61/64);

(d) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (see A/61/83 and Corr.1);

(e) Proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007 (A/61/125).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/61/16).

06-67735 (E) 211206

4. At the 7th meeting, on 17 October 2006, the Chairperson of the Committee for Programme and Coordination introduced the report of that Committee (see A/C.5/61/SR.7).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.16

5. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Programme planning" (A/C.5/61/L.16), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Pakistan.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.16 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of position; after the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Japan and South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, made statements in explanation of position (see A/C.5/61/SR.36).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1932, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004 and 60/257 of 8 May 2006,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-sixth session,[1] the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009: part one: plan outline[2] and part two: biennial programme plan,[3] the proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007,[4] the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2004-2005[5] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives,[6]

1. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspect of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[7]

2. *Requests* the General Committee to take fully into account resolutions 56/253, 57/282, 59/275 and 60/257 in the allocation of agenda items to the Main Committees;

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009 contained in the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-sixth session,[1] subject to the provisions of the present resolution and the additional modifications contained in the annex hereto;

---

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/61/16).

[2] A/61/6 (Part one).

[3] A/61/6 (Prog. 1-13, 14/Rev.1 and 15-27). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/61/6/Rev.1).

[4] A/61/125.

[5] A/61/64.

[6] See A/61/83 and Corr.1.

[7] ST/SGB/2000/8.

4. *Decides* not to take a decision on the content of part one: plan outline of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009;[2]

5. *Also decides* that the priorities for the period 2008-2009 shall be the following:

(a) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(b) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(c) Development of Africa;

(d) Promotion of human rights;

(e) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(f) Promotion of justice and international law;

(g) Disarmament;

(h) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

6. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

7. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 on the basis of the above priorities and the biennial programme plan as adopted in the present resolution;

Programme performance report

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2004-2005;[5]

10. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination regarding the report of the Secretary-General;

11. *Stresses* that, while future reports on programme performance will be more aligned with the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, information on the outputs shall continue to be provided in the reports;

12. *Recognizes* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in monitoring and evaluation, and encourages the Committee, in reviewing performance and evaluation reports, to provide, inter alia, action-oriented recommendations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and impact of the activities of the Organization;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that future programme performance reports provide more detailed information on the reasons for the less-than-full implementation of programmed outputs or the postponement or termination thereof;

Evaluation

14. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on evaluation, contained in chapter II, section C, of its report;

15. *Recalls* paragraphs 9 and 10 of its resolution 60/257, and encourages intergovernmental bodies to make use of the findings set out in the programme performance reports of the Secretary-General and evaluation reports in planning and policymaking;

16. *Also recalls* paragraphs 14 and 15 of its resolution 60/257, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session to improve the links between monitoring, evaluation, programme planning and budgeting;

Coordination questions

18. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2005-2006, contained in chapter III, section A, of its report, and on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, contained in chapter III, section B, of its report;

19. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to utilize the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination when considering related reports of the Chief Executives Board;

Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate

20. *Recalls* its resolutions 58/269, 59/275 and 60/257;

21. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Committee for Programme and Coordination during its forty-sixth session to improve its working methods and procedures;

22. *Invites* the Committee for Programme and Coordination, at its forty-seventh session, within the framework of its mandate, to continue its consideration of the agenda item on improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.

Annex

Additional modifications to the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009

Programme 10
Trade and development

Subprogramme 2
Investment, enterprise and technology

Expected accomplishment (c) should read as follows: "Improved opportunities for enterprises in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to enhance their competitiveness through deepened linkages between domestic and foreign firms and better understanding of emerging issues in accounting and reporting standards, corporate responsibility, transparency and good corporate practices".

Indicator of achievement (c) should read as follows: "Increased percentage of countries indicating that policy advice and technical assistance provided by UNCTAD were useful in the design of policies aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of their enterprises".

Strategy

Paragraph 10.9 should read as follows: "This subprogramme is implemented under the responsibility of the Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development. To achieve the objective of the subprogramme, the Division will aim to improve the understanding of issues and policy choices in international investment, enterprise development and technology transfer and will continue to strengthen its role as the major source of comprehensive information and analysis of international investment. It will focus on the development dimension of international investment and technology flows, the interface of global processes and national policymaking and the integration of investment, technology and enterprise-development policies. The Division will also aim to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, at their request, to formulate and implement integrated policies and to participate in discussions relating to international investment, to support efforts by developing countries to build productive capacities and to respond to technological and scientific changes through science and technology reviews and to promote the transfer of technology and innovation."

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Indicator of achievement (c) should read as follows: "Increased number of countries in which improvements have been achieved in integrating commodity production, processing and trade into development in line with UNCTAD research and analyses, and policy deliberations and technical assistance".

Programme 24
Management and support service

Overall orientation

Paragraph 24.3 should read as follows: "The programme is oriented principally towards fully meeting management reform measures, including those approved by the General Assembly, with the support of a communication strategy that ensures that Member States, managers and staff are fully informed of and engaged in the efforts to ensure a more effective and results-oriented Organization."

A. Headquarters

Subprogramme 1
Management services, administration of justice and services to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and to the Committee for Programme and Coordination

(a) Management services

Add a new expected accomplishment as follows:

"(c) Improved business processes".

Add new indicators of achievement as follows:

"(c) (i) An improvement in the timeliness of business processes (reduction in the number of months, weeks or days required)

"(ii) Amount of efficiency gains resulting from business process improvements".

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

(a) Operational services

The objective of the Organization should read as follows: "to support the sound management of human resources in the Organization and, with respect to staffing, to pay due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations".

Under indicator of achievement (a) (ii), add a new indicator as follows:

"(iii) Increased number of nationals from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States, in particular developing countries, in the Secretariat"

Paragraph 24.18 should read as follows: "The Management Performance Board now monitors the manner in which senior managers exercise all aspects of the authority that has been delegated to them, including their performance in achieving the objectives contained in human resources action plans. Under the current staff selection system, the head of department/office, having been delegated the authority to select staff, is responsible for the progress made towards achieving the targets for geography and gender balance, which will be presented under executive direction and management, and detailed in that context in the programme budget."

United Nations A/61/654

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 124

Joint Inspection Unit

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Joint Inspection Unit" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 3rd and 36th meetings, on 10 October and 21 December. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.3 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2005 and programme of work for 2006;[1]

(b) Note by the President of the General Assembly on procedures for the appointment of inspectors of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/60/659).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.20

4. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Joint Inspection Unit" (A/C.5/61/L.20), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Ukraine.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.20, without a vote (see para. 6).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/61/34).

06-67723 (E) 211206

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Joint Inspection Unit

I

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 31/192 of 22 December 1976, 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 55/230 of 23 December 2000, 56/245 of 24 December 2001, 57/284 A and B of 20 December 2002, 58/286 of 8 April 2004, 59/267 of 23 December 2004 and 60/258 of 8 May 2006,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on its activities for 2005 and its programme of work for 2006,[1]

Noting the ongoing internal reform process of the Joint Inspection Unit aimed at further improving its effectiveness,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2005 and its programme of work for 2006;[1]

2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts made by the Unit to improve the implementation of its reform process, as indicated in paragraphs 1 to 6 of its report;

3. *Reaffirms* paragraph 6 of its resolution 60/258, and requests the Unit to continue to submit an advance version of its programme of work to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed sessions;

4. *Welcomes* the increasing focus of the programme of work of the Unit on issues of systemwide relevance, and urges the Unit, as the only systemwide external oversight body, to continue to focus its work and reports, whenever possible, on issues of systemwide interest, value and relevance to the efficient and effective functioning of all organizations to which the Joint Inspection Unit provides services;

5. *Encourages* the Unit to increase its efforts to help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the respective secretariats in achieving the legislative mandates and to ensure that the mission objectives established for the organizations are carried out in the most economical manner and that optimum use is made of resources available for carrying out those activities;

6. *Welcomes* the information presented in paragraphs 27 to 30 of the annual report, bearing in mind that the methodology is still at the early stage of implementation, and requests that future reports, to the extent possible, also include information on estimated savings, actual savings achieved, acceptance rate of recommendations and implementation status of each impact category, particularly regarding systemwide or multi-agency recommendations;

7. *Looks forward* to receiving an analysis of the eight categories of impact as described in paragraphs 29 to 31 of the report, as applied to the actual impact of its recommendations;

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/61/34).

8. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the Unit to improve its working methods, and invites the Unit to undergo external peer reviews as necessary.

II

The General Assembly,

Having considered the note by the President of the General Assembly on the procedures for the appointment of inspectors of the Joint Inspection Unit,[2]

Bearing in mind paragraphs 8 and 9 of resolution 59/267 and article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the President of the General Assembly on the procedures for the appointment of inspectors of the Joint Inspection Unit;

2. *Confirms* the existing procedure for the appointment of the inspectors in accordance with article 3 of the statute of the Unit;[3]

3. *Decides* that the President of the General Assembly, beginning from 1 January 2008, when drawing up a list of countries that will be requested to propose candidates, in accordance with article 3, paragraph 1, of the statute, will invite Member States to submit the names of the countries and their respective candidates simultaneously, on the understanding that the candidates submitted are the candidates that the respective Member States intend to propose, to the extent possible, for appointment by the General Assembly, in accordance with article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute;

4. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to submit to the Assembly, for consideration at its sixty-fourth session, a report on the effective application of the above-mentioned selection procedures in enhancing efficiency in implementing article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute.

---

[2] A/60/659.

[3] Resolution 31/192, annex.

United Nations A/61/655

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 129

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 32nd and 36th meetings, on 15 and 21 December 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.32 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Financial report and audited financial statements and report of the Board of Auditors on the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens

06-67729 (E) 211206

Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on financial and any other implications resulting from the introduction of a staff retention bonus at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (A/61/522);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/591);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the first performance report of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2006-2007 (A/61/586);

(e) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/633).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.13

4. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994" (A/C.5/61/L.13), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Chile.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.13 without a vote (see para. 6).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5K* and corrigendum (A/61/5/Add.11 and Corr.1).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General, namely, the first performance report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 for the biennium 2006-2007[1] and the report on financial and any other implications resulting from the introduction of a staff retention bonus at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia,[2]

Having also considered the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the recommendations contained therein,[3]

Having further considered the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 60/240 and 60/241 of 23 December 2005,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the first performance report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[1] and on the financial and any other implications resulting from the introduction of a staff retention bonus at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[4]

---

[1] A/61/586.

[2] A/61/522.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5K* and corrigendum (A/61/5/Add.11 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[4] A/61/591 and A/61/633.

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and requests the Secretary-General to report on progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board in the context of the proposed budget of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2008-2009;

4. *Also emphasizes* the importance of the timely submission of the performance reports of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in order to facilitate the proper consideration thereof by the General Assembly;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 9 of its resolution 60/241, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of the proposed budget of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2008-2009;

6. *Decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 of a total amount of 277,127,700 United States dollars gross (254,757,400 dollars net) for the biennium 2006-2007;

7. *Also decides*, for the year 2007, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 71,124,250 dollars gross (65,656,200 dollars net), including 3,684,650 dollars gross (3,933,700 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

8. *Further decides*, for the year 2007, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for the year, the amount of 71,124,250 dollars gross (65,656,200 dollars net), including 3,684,650 dollars gross (3,933,700 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

9. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 7 and 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 10,936,100 dollars, including 498,100 dollars, being the decrease in the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2006-2007.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2006-2007 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

(United States dollars)

	Gross	*Net*
Initial appropriation for the biennium 2006-2007 (see resolution 60/241)	269 758 400	246 890 000
Add: Proposed changes for the biennium 2006-2007 (see A/61/586)	7 369 300	7 867 400
Proposed revised appropriation for the biennium 2006-2007	**277 127 700**	**254 757 400**
Assessment for 2006	134 879 200	123 445 000
Balance to be assessed for 2007	142 248 500	131 312 400
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2007	71 124 250	65 656 200
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2007	71 124 250	65 656 200

United Nations A/61/656

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 130

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 32nd and 36th meetings, on 15 and 21 December 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.32 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Financial report and audited financial statements and report of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on financial and any other implications resulting from the introduction of a staff retention bonus at the International

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5L* and corrigendum (A/61/5/Add.12 and Corr.1).

06-67741 (E) 211206

Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (A/61/522);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/591);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the first performance report of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2006-2007 (A/61/585);

(e) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/633).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.14

4. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991" (A/C.5/61/L.14), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Chile.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.14 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General, namely, the first performance report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 for the biennium 2006-2007[1] and the report on financial and any other implications resulting from the introduction of a staff retention bonus at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia,[2]

Having also considered the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the recommendations contained therein,[3]

Having further considered the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 60/242 and 60/243 of 23 December 2005,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the first performance report of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2006-2007[1] and on financial and any other implications resulting from the introduction of a staff retention bonus at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[4]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and requests the Secretary-General to report on progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board in the context of the proposed budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009;

4. *Also emphasizes* the importance of the timely submission of the performance reports of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary

[1] A/61/585.
[2] A/61/522.
[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5L* and corrigendum (A/61/5/Add.12 and Corr.1), chap. II.
[4] A/61/591 and A/61/633.

Questions in order to facilitate the proper consideration thereof by the General Assembly;

5. *Decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 of a total amount of 326,573,900 United States dollars gross (297,146,300 dollars net) for the biennium 2006-2007;

6. *Decides also*, for the year 2007, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 86,940,250 dollars gross (78,995,675 dollars net), including 10,718,300 dollars gross (9,418,200 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

7. *Decides further*, for the year 2007, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for the year, the amount of 86,940,250 dollars gross (78,995,675 dollars net), including 10,718,300 dollars gross (9,418,200 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

8. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 6 and 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 15,889,150 dollars, including 2,600,200 dollars, being the increase in the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2006-2007.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2006-2007 of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

(United States dollars)

	Gross	*Net*
Initial appropriation for the biennium 2006-2007 (see resolution 60/243)	305 137 300	278 559 400
Add: proposed changes for the biennium 2006-2007 (see A/61/585)	21 436 600	18 836 400
Less: estimated income for the biennium 2006-2007	(249 500)	(249 500)
Proposed revised appropriation for the biennium 2006-2007	**326 324 400**	**297 146 300**
Assessment for 2006	(152 443 900)	(139 154 950)
Balance to be assessed for 2007	173 880 500	157 991 350
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2007	86 940 250	78 995 675
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2007	86 940 250	78 995 675

United Nations A/61/657

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 144 (b)

Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 31st, 35th and 36th meetings, on 13, 20 and 21 December 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.31, 35 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007 (A/61/588);

(b) Letter dated 17 August 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/60/986);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/616).

06-67839 (E) 211206

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.17

4. At the 35th meeting, on 20 December, the representative of Nigeria informed the Committee that no consensus had been reached during the informal consultations on this item.

5. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" (A/C.5/61/L.17).

6. At the 36th meeting, on 21 December, a recorded vote was requested on the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 21 of the draft resolution. A recorded vote was also requested on the draft resolution as a whole.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.17 as follows:

(a) The fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 21 were retained by a recorded vote of 93 to 6, with 47 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

(b) Draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.17, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 142 to 4, with 1 abstention (see para. 9). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Côte d'Ivoire, Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia.

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Canada, the United States of America, Israel, Australia and Lebanon (see A/C.5/61/SR.36).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

9. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon,[1] the letter dated 17 August 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Recalling Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1701 (2006) of 11 August 2006, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force until 31 August 2007 and authorized an increase in the strength of the Force to a maximum of 15,000 troops,

Recalling also its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 60/278 of 30 June 2006,

Reaffirming its resolutions 51/233 of 13 June 1997, 52/237 of 26 June 1998, 53/227 of 8 June 1999, 54/267 of 15 June 2000, 55/180 A of 19 December 2000, 55/180 B of 14 June 2001, 56/214 A of 21 December 2001, 56/214 B of 27 June 2002, 57/325 of 18 June 2003, 58/307 of 18 June 2004, 59/307 of 22 June 2005 and 60/278,

Reaffirming also the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005 and 60/278, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the Force as at 31 October 2006, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 67.9 million United

[1] A/61/588.
[2] A/60/986.
[3] A/61/616.

States dollars, representing some 2 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-eight Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full;

4. *Expresses deep concern* that Israel did not comply with General Assembly resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227, 54/267, 55/180 A, 55/180 B, 56/214 A, 56/214 B, 57/325, 58/307, 59/307 and 60/278;

5. *Stresses once again* that Israel should strictly abide by General Assembly resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227, 54/267, 55/180 A, 55/180 B, 56/214 A, 56/214 B, 57/325, 58/307, 59/307 and 60/278;

6. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

7. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

8. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

9. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Force;

11. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

12. *Takes note* of the proposal for the establishment of the Office of Political and Civil Affairs, as contained in paragraph 19 of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure, in reviewing the organizational structure of the Force, that it is in conformity with the mandate of the Force;

13. *Notes* the measures being undertaken by the Secretary-General, as set out in his letter;[2]

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further elaborate the rationale for and status of those measures implemented in the context of his next budget submission, during the first part of the resumed sixty-first session;

15. *Emphasizes* that the approval of commitment authority in no way implies approval of the establishment of posts or the creation of new functions;

16. *Recalls* section VIII of its resolution 60/266 of 30 June 2006, and, mindful of the significantly increased size and the increased area of operation of the Force, decides to authorize the provision of 500,000 dollars for quick-impact projects;

17. *Decides* to authorize, without setting a precedent, the utilization of an amount not exceeding 750,000 dollars for temporary fuel assistance for the Force to assist the deployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces in southern Lebanon;

18. *Reaffirms* its resolution 59/296, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of its relevant provisions and the relevant provisions of its resolution 60/266;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Force against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Force;

21. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure the full implementation of paragraph 8 of its resolution 51/233, paragraph 5 of its resolution 52/237, paragraph 11 of its resolution 53/227, paragraph 14 of its resolution 54/267, paragraph 14 of its resolution 55/180 A, paragraph 15 of its resolution 55/180 B, paragraph 13 of its resolution 56/214 A, paragraph 13 of its resolution 56/214 B, paragraph 14 of its resolution 57/325, paragraph 13 of its resolution 58/307, paragraph 13 of its resolution 59/307 and paragraph 17 of its resolution 60/278, stresses once again that Israel shall pay the amount of 1,117,005 dollars resulting from the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this matter to the General Assembly at its current session;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007

22. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the Force for the period from 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007 in a total amount not exceeding 257,340,400 dollars, inclusive of the amount of 50 million dollars previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994 and in addition to the amount of 97,579,600 dollars already appropriated for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 under the terms of its resolution 60/278;

23. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the period from 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007 in a total amount not exceeding 2,486,900 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and in respect of the backstopping of the Force at Headquarters;

Financing of the commitment authority

24. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 257,340,400 dollars for the period from 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007 for the expansion of the Force, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, and the scale of assessments for 2007;[4]

25. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 24 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the amount of 2,305,800 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Force;

26. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

27. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Force;

28. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

29. *Decides* to keep under review during its sixty-first session, under the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

[4] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

A/61/658

Readex
Fiche

United Nations A/61/658

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda items 47, 113, 116, 117, 122, 123, 132 and 149

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Human resources management

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

United Nations reform: measures and proposals

Governance and oversight review and procurement reform

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the items entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", "Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007", "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", "Human resources management" and "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" and to allocate them to the Fifth Committee. The Assembly further decided to allocate to the Fifth Committee, for consideration of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, the items entitled "Integrated and

06-67869 (E) 211206

coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields", "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit" and "United Nations reform: measures and proposals".

2. The Fifth Committee considered the items at its 9th, 30th and 36th meetings, on 23 October and 12 and 21 December 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the items are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.9, 30 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the items, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Procurement reform

(a) Detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide: procurement reform (A/60/846/Add.5 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/904);

(c) Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Procurement practices within the United Nations system" and his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon (A/59/721 and Add.1);

Governance and oversight review

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of decisions contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for action by the Secretary-General: comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies (A/60/883 and Add.1 and 2);

(e) Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Oversight lacunae in the United Nations system" and his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon (A/60/860 and Add.1);

(f) Comments of the Joint Inspection Unit on the report of the Steering Committee on the Comprehensive Review of Governance and Oversight within the United Nations and Its Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies (A/60/1004);

(g) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/605);

(h) Detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: accountability (A/60/846/Add.6);

(i) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/909);

(j) Report of the Secretary-General on accountability measures (A/61/546);

(k) Detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: updated terms of reference for the Independent Audit Advisory Committee (A/60/846/Add.7);

(l) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/903);

(m) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on proposals for strengthening the Office of Internal Oversight Services (A/60/901).

II. Consideration of draft proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.15

4. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies" (A/C.5/61/L.15), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Belgium.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.15 without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.23

6. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Procurement reform" (A/C.5/61/L.23), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of the Netherlands.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.23 without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies,[1] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on oversight lacunae in the United Nations system[2] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[3] the comments of the Joint Inspection Unit on the report of the Steering Committee on the Comprehensive Review of Governance and Oversight within the United Nations and Its Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies,[4] the detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: accountability[5] and the report of the Secretary-General on accountability measures,[6] the detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: updated terms of reference for the Independent Audit Advisory Committee,[7] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on proposals for strengthening the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[8] the interim report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: updated terms of reference for the Independent Audit Advisory Committee,[9] the report of the Advisory Committee on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report on accountability[10] and the report of the Advisory Committee on the comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies,[11]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies,[1] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on oversight lacunae in the United Nations system[2] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief

[1] A/60/883 and Add.1 and 2.
[2] See A/60/860.
[3] See A/60/860/Add.1.
[4] A/60/1004.
[5] A/60/846/Add.6.
[6] A/61/546.
[7] A/60/846/Add.7.
[8] A/60/901.
[9] A/60/903.
[10] A/60/909.
[11] A/61/605.

Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[3] the comments of the Joint Inspection Unit on the report of the Steering Committee on the Comprehensive Review of Governance and Oversight within the United Nations and Its Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies,[4] the detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: accountability[5] and the report of the Secretary-General on accountability measures,[6] the detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: updated terms of reference for the Independent Audit Advisory Committee,[7] the interim report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: updated terms of reference for the Independent Au 'it Advisory Committee,[9] and the report of the Advisory Committee on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report on accountability;[10]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies;[11]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the following reports for its consideration at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session:

(a) Revised terms of reference for the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

(b) Strengthening of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit the following reports for its consideration at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session if possible, but not later than by the end of its sixty-first session:

(a) Enterprise risk management and internal control framework;

(b) Results-based management;

(c) Accountability framework.

Draft resolution II

Procurement reform

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/14 of 29 October 1999, 55/247 of 12 April 2001, 57/279 of 20 December 2002, 58/276 and 58/277 of 23 December 2003, 59/288 and 59/289 of 13 April 2005, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/260 of 8 May 2006, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 60/283 of 7 July 2006,

Having considered the detailed report of the Secretary-General on investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: procurement reform,[1] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on procurement practices within the United Nations system and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on procurement practices within the United Nations system and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Stresses* the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates on procurement and the related use of financial and human resources, as well as the provision of necessary information on procurement-related matters to enable Member States to make well-informed decisions;

4. *Recognizes* that procurement reform is an ongoing process and should focus, inter alia, on ensuring the efficiency, transparency and cost-effectiveness of United Nations procurement as well as strengthened internal controls, greater accountability to Member States and full implementation of General Assembly resolutions on procurement reform;

5. *Recalls* its resolutions on procurement reform, and notes that the report of the Secretary-General focused mainly on strengthening of internal controls and optimization of acquisition and procurement management, with emphasis on urgent internal control issues, and that other procurement reform measures will be presented in forthcoming reports;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to submit proposals to effectively increase procurement opportunities for and the participation of vendors from developing countries;

---

[1] A/60/846/Add.5 and Corr.1.

[2] See A/59/721 and Add.1.

[3] A/60/904.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a comprehensive report on all aspects of procurement reform, including the outstanding reports referred to in paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as well as measures taken to implement its resolutions on procurement reform and the status of implementation of recommendations of the oversight bodies;

Staff

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all staff in the Secretariat involved in procurement activities, including at the senior levels, file financial disclosure statements annually;

9. *Regrets* that the Secretary-General has not submitted proposals related to the issue of conflict of interest requested by the General Assembly in section V, paragraph 9, of its resolution 60/266 at the main part of its sixty-first session, and requests him to do so no later than by the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

10. *Stresses* the importance of developing and implementing an ethics and integrity programme for the procurement staff, and requests the Secretary-General to complete and issue ethics guidelines no later than June 2007 for all staff involved in the procurement process;

11. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the Secretary-General in undertaking training programmes for United Nations procurement staff, including in the field, and requests the Secretary-General to evaluate their impact and monitor their implementation and to submit proposals on making any further improvements necessary in the training of staff in procurement processes;

Internal controls

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance transparency in the procurement decision-making process through, inter alia, the establishment of an independent bid protest system outside of the reporting hierarchy of the Procurement Division of the Department of Management of the Secretariat in order to furnish vendors participating in tenders with a means of disputing procurement-related decisions;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the specific modalities of the bid protest system and related procedures, including possible legal and financial implications;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include information, as appropriate, on the bid protest system on the website of the Procurement Division;

15. *Notes* the promotion by the Procurement Division of the voluntary principles of the corporate social responsibility initiative, the Global Compact, within the United Nations procurement framework, and requests the Secretary-General, as appropriate, to report to the General Assembly for further consideration;

16. *Notes with appreciation* that the Supplier Code of Conduct has been promulgated and posted on the website of the Procurement Division with a view to achieving the goal of safeguarding the integrity of the United Nations in procurement activities;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to simplify and streamline the vendor registration process, to share responsibilities among the various United Nations organizations and to take into account the different circumstances and varying levels of Internet access in countries and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, in the context of the comprehensive report, on the results achieved;

Governance

18. *Notes with concern* the possible weaknesses in the control environment with regard to procurement activities owing, inter alia, to the splitting of responsibilities between the Department of Management and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, as referred to in paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session a comprehensive report on the following elements:

(a) The management arrangements for procurement, including clear lines of accountability and delegation of authority;

(b) The findings of the working group established to examine ways in which the organizational structure could be changed to better align responsibility with authority and to improve the overall control environment for procurement for peacekeeping operations;

(c) The respective responsibilities of the Department of Management and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations;

(d) Streamlined procurement procedures for peacekeeping operations in the field, including specific information on mechanisms for strengthened monitoring, oversight and accountability;

(e) The functioning of the Headquarters Contracts Committee and the local committees on contracts;

Procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore additional ways to improve procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition both at Headquarters and in the field and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

21. *Recalls* section VII, paragraph 2, of its resolution 60/266, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that information on procurement opportunities at Headquarters and in peacekeeping operations is made available to business communities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, through, inter alia, continued cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the Procurement Division of the Department of Management, utilizing the United Nations information centres and offices;

22. *Recognizes* the efforts by the Procurement Division to increase the number of business seminars in developing countries, and requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives

Board for Coordination, to encourage the organizations of the United Nations system to facilitate, in cooperation with Member States, the organization of business seminars in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Inter-Agency Procurement Working Group to continue to study ways and means and recommend concrete proposals to diversify the sourcing of goods and services, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the organizations of the United Nations system, consistent with their respective mandates, to take further steps to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

Procurement management

25. *Recalls* that the General Assembly has not yet taken a decision on the lead agency concept, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to include in his report an assessment of the internal controls of the United Nations organizations and how they differ from those of the Procurement Division;

26. *Recognizes* that the lead agency concept is being developed and that extensive consultations are under way within the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-second session on proposals for the lead agency concept and the status of consultations, including on clear lines of accountability, the applicability of resolutions and decisions of the Assembly, the impact on efforts to improve the diversification of the origin of vendors, possible efficiency gains and cost savings and distribution of resources within the United Nations system, enabling proposed designated buyers to manage larger procurement activities;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to encourage all the organizations of the United Nations system, consistent with their respective mandates, to further improve their procurement practices, inter alia, by participating in the United Nations Global Marketplace with a view to creating one common United Nations global procurement website;

28. *Stresses* the need to ensure transparency in procurement throughout the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Global Marketplace website is fully accessible to Member States no later than 1 June 2007;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Global Marketplace website, inter alia, features lists of companies that register through the Global Marketplace as vendors of United Nations system entities, as well as statistics on contract awards, acquisition plans and procurement notices;

30. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to extend participation and improve the level of collaboration, coordination and information-sharing among the organizations of the United Nations system with respect to procurement activities in order to achieve economies of scale and eliminate duplication of work;

31. *Notes* the activities of the Inter-Agency Procurement Working Group and of the Common Services Procurement Working Group on enhancing the transparency and increasing the harmonization of procurement practices, and

requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, to continue work in this regard;

32. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of its resolution 59/288, and, noting paragraphs 65 and 66 of the report of the Secretary-General, requests the Secretary-General to report comprehensively to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the principle of best value for money and its implementation in United Nations procurement, including, inter alia, its possible effect on the diversification of vendors and suppliers and on efforts to improve procurement for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to develop clear guidelines for the implementation of the best value for money methodology in United Nations procurement and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

Other issues

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement measures to reduce the timeline associated with the payment of invoices;

35. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that a monthly update of contract award statistics is posted on the website of the Procurement Division;

36. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the website of the Procurement Division and make it more user-friendly;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, in the context of the comprehensive report, on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution;

Resources

38. *Decides* to approve the conversion of twenty positions funded under general temporary assistance to established posts under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period ending 30 June 2007, as follows:

(a) Procurement Division, Department of Management: eleven posts (one P-5, three P-4, four P-3, one General Service (Principal level) and two General Service (Other level));

(b) Office of Mission Support, Department of Peacekeeping Operations: two posts (one P-5 and one P-4);

(c) Headquarters Committee on Contracts, Department of Management: three posts (one D-1, one P-4 and one General Service (Other level));

(d) General Legal Division, Office of Legal Affairs: four posts (two P-5, one P-4 and one General Service (Other level));

39. *Also decides* to approve the conversion of the six positions (one D-1, four P-4 and one P-3) for the Procurement Division funded under general temporary assistance to established posts and an amount of 706,500 United States dollars, representing the balance of the resource requirements for the six posts under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period ending 30 June 2007;

40. *Further decides* that three of the posts established above (one P-4, one P-3 and one General Service (Other level)) will be designated to the Vendor Registration and Management Team with a view to, inter alia, promoting the diversification of the origin of vendors among all Member States, including developing countries and countries with economies in transition, simplifying vendor registration, managing the vendor database and liaising with vendors;

41. *Approves* the resource requirements of 1,050,000 dollars proposed in the report of the Secretary-General for the Procurement Division under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the rest of the fiscal year ending 30 June 2007, as follows:

(a) 200,000 dollars for consultants to review industry practices and procurement models in specific industries relevant to United Nations requirements;

(b) 800,000 dollars for training of both Headquarters and peacekeeping mission procurement staff (640,000 dollars for consultants to organize training, 150,000 dollars for travel of staff for procurement training and 10,000 dollars for training-related supplies and materials);

(c) 50,000 dollars for travel in relation to business seminars;

42. *Also approves* the reclassification of the Chief of Procurement post from the D-1 to the D-2 level;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to comprehensively review the post and non-post requirements of the Procurement Division, taking into account General Assembly resolutions, including the present one, on procurement reform, and to submit proposals based on identified requirements in the context of the budget for the support account for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

United Nations A/61/659

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-first session
Agenda items 47, 113, 116, 117, 122, 123, 132, 147 and 149

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Human resources management

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

United Nations reform: measures and proposals

Human resources management

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the items entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", "Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007", "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", "Human resources management", "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping

06-67863 (E) 211206

operations" and "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara" and to allocate them to the Fifth Committee. The Assembly further decided to allocate to the Fifth Committee, for consideration of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, the items entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields", "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit" and "United Nations reform: measures and proposals".

2. The Fifth Committee considered the items at its 12th, 14th, 16th and 36th meetings, on 30 October and 1 and 2 November and 21 December 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the items are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.12, 14, 16 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the items, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities (A/59/716);

(b) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/59/786);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive assessment of the system of geographical distribution and assessment of the issues relating to possible changes in the number of posts subject to the system of geographical distribution (A/59/724);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on a study on the availability of skills in local labour markets for which international recruitment for the General Service category takes place (A/60/262);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the Secretariat (A/60/310);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (A/60/861);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive policy guidelines for consultants in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/61/201);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on human resources management reform (A/61/228 and Corr.1);

(i) Report of the Secretary-General on reforming the Field Service category: investing in meeting the human resources requirements of United Nations peace operations in the twenty-first century (A/61/255/Add.1);

(j) Report of the Secretary-General on investing in people (A/61/255);

(k) Report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the Secretariat (A/61/257 and Corr.1);

(l) Report of the Secretary-General on the use of gratis personnel, indicating nationality and summarizing duration of service and function performed (A/61/257/Add.1 and Corr.1);

(m) Report of the Secretary-General on the employment of retired former staff (A/61/257/Add.2);

(n) Report of the Secretary-General on consultants and individual contractors (A/61/257/Add.3);

(o) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Ethics Office (A/61/274);

(p) Report of the Secretary-General on the Management Performance Board (A/61/319);

(q) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the availability in local labour markets of the skills for which international recruitment for the General Service category takes place (A/59/388);

(r) Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the review of headquarters agreements concluded by the organizations of the United Nations system: human resources issues affecting staff and his comments and those of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon (A/59/526 and Add.1);

(s) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on human resources management (A/61/537).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.24

4. At its 36th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Human resources management" (A/C.5/61/L.24), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Iran (Islamic Republic of).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.24 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Human resources management

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 8, 97, 100 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/222 A and B of 23 December 1994 and 20 July 1995, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 52/219 of 22 December 1997, 52/252 of 8 September 1998, 53/221 of 7 April 1999, 55/258 of 14 June 2001, 57/305 of 15 April 2003, 58/296 of 18 June 2004, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 60/260 of 8 May 2006, as well as its other relevant resolutions and decisions,

Having considered the relevant reports on human resources management questions submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Reaffirming that the staff of the United Nations is an invaluable asset of the Organization, and commending its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Paying tribute to the memory of all staff members who have lost their lives in the service of the Organization,

I
Human resources management reform

1. *Expresses* its concern over the fact that staff representatives from New York did not participate in the consultation process, stresses the importance of a meaningful dialogue on human resources management issues between staff and management, and calls upon both parties to intensify efforts to overcome differences and to resume the consultative process;

2. *Notes* the Secretary-General's proposals on the new human resources framework, and emphasizes that it shall be based on clear ethical standards, simplicity, clarity and transparency, recruitment based on the highest standards of efficiency, integrity and professionalism, career development, compliance with geographical distribution and gender balance mandates, accountability of managers and staff, and operational needs at Headquarters and in the field;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the participation of staff representatives in the work of the central review bodies, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General and its invitation to staff representatives to engage in the consultative process;

---

[1] A/59/388, A/59/526 and Add.1, A/59/716, A/59/724, A/59/786, A/60/262, A/60/310, A/60/861, A/61/201, A/61/228 and Corr.1, A/61/255 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, A/61/257 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1, A/61/274 and A/61/319.

[2] A/61/537.

4. *Notes* that minimizing the occurrence of high rates of job turnover in Professional categories in the United Nations is essential to its smooth functioning;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it in the context of the biennial human resources management report on the yearly rate of turnover in Professional categories, classified by grade level, in the United Nations Secretariat and its field missions;

II
Recruitment and staffing

1. *Reiterates* that the Secretary-General has to ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Also reiterates* section V, paragraph 2, of its resolution 53/221, which states that recruitment, appointment and promotion of staff shall be made without distinction as to race, sex or religion, in accordance with the principles of the Charter and the provisions of the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on measures being used to verify the application of the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity as the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, with due regard to the recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in accordance with the provisions of Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, and to report thereon at its sixty-third session;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper functioning and membership of the central review bodies in order to ensure their effective role in the staff selection system and, to that end, to develop an induction and training programme for the members, and to report to it thereon at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a review of the staff selection system with a particular emphasis on enhancing the performance of the United Nations Secretariat, which would include a survey of opinions of managers relating, inter alia, to the possibilities offered by that system to choose the best-qualified candidate for the job and to improve geographical representation and gender balance, and to report to it thereon, in the context of his regular human resources report, at its sixty-third session;

6. *Reaffirms* the provisions of regulation 4.4 of the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, and decides to retain the criterion of geographic status in the staff selection system as one of the key elements to ensure geographical balance at each level for posts subject to geographical distribution;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of speeding up the recruitment and staffing process, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, which will ensure that staff are diverse, multi-skilled and versatile;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to explore ways to further increase awareness of job opportunities in the United Nations system, including through more extensive outreach, the Department of

Public Information, United Nations information centres and United Nations country offices, with a view to achieving more balanced geographical and gender representation in the Organization;

9. *Recognizes* that pre-screened rosters can considerably expedite the recruitment process in the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the full utilization of existing rosters for recruitment and to further elaborate the use of pre-screened rosters, based on the organizational needs identified through strategic workforce planning, taking into account the need for transparency, support for the provisions of Article 101 of the Charter and administrative and resource implications, as well as geographical and gender mandates, and to report to it thereon at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

11. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to establish a recruitment and staffing centre to support managers in the selection of staff and to enhance the consistency of recruitment across the Secretariat, and invites the Secretary-General to submit proposals in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that use of the envisaged expedited recruitment process is confined to surge needs, with established procedures for recruitment being waived only in exceptional cases, and also requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of this mechanism, including the criteria for defining such exceptions, in the context of its consideration of human resources management;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to reduce the period required to fill vacancies by addressing the factors contributing to delays in the process of selection, recruitment and placement and to report to it thereon at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

14. *Decides* to maintain the limitations established by the General Assembly for the assignment of General Service staff to field missions;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue in future years the innovation set out in his report on the composition of the Secretariat[3] to provide information on all staff under contract with the United Nations Secretariat, thus providing a more comprehensive picture of staff by nationality, category and gender;

16. *Reaffirms* the need to respect the equality of each of the two working languages of the Secretariat, also reaffirms the use of additional working languages in specific duty stations as mandated, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that vacancy announcements specify the need for either of the working languages of the Secretariat unless the functions of the post require a specific working language;

17. *Acknowledges* that the interaction of the United Nations with the local population in the field is essential and that language skills constitute an important element of the selection and training processes, and therefore affirms that good command of the official language(s) spoken in the country of residence should be taken into account as an additional asset during those processes;

[3] A/61/257 and Corr.1.

III
National competitive examination

1. *Reaffirms* that national competitive examinations are the source of recruitment for P-2 posts subject to geographical distribution in order to reduce non-representation and underrepresentation of Member States in the Secretariat, and in this connection requests the Secretary-General to fully use this opportunity and, in particular, to accelerate the recruitment of candidates who have passed national competitive examinations;

2. *Notes with concern* that a large number of candidates who have passed national competitive examinations remain on the roster for years;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the expeditious placement of successful candidates from national competitive examinations;

4. *Welcomes* the enhanced efforts of the Secretary-General to centrally manage the placement of successful candidates from national competitive examinations, and requests the Secretary-General to report the outcome of those efforts to it at its sixty-third session;

IV
Mobility

1. *Reaffirms* section VIII of its resolution 59/266;

2. *Stresses* that the purpose of enhancing mobility is to improve the effectiveness of the Organization and to foster the skills and capacity of staff;

3. *Notes* the current work of the Secretary-General on mobility policies, and encourages him to continue to make progress in this field in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms* that the implementation of mobility policies, while recognizing their anticipated positive effects, may also give rise to problems and challenges that should be addressed;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to report to it at the main part of its sixty-second session on clear indicators, benchmarks, number of staff, timelines and criteria for the implementation of mobility policies, taking into account the needs of the Organization and ways to protect the rights of staff in the context of the system of administration of justice;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-third session on the implemented phases of the mobility policy, along with projections for the envisaged remaining phases and an assessment of the relevant administrative and management issues;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to provide an analysis of the managed mobility programme, including information on financial implications and on its usefulness in improving organizational efficiency and addressing, inter alia, high vacancy rates, and to report to it thereon at its sixty-third session;

8. *Decides*, in the light of the experience of managed mobility, to review the enforcement of post-occupancy limits at its sixty-third session;

9. *Also decides* to approve the establishment of three new temporary positions — two P-4 and one General Service — to provide support for the work of the Secretary-General in this area;

10. *Further decides* to approve an additional appropriation under the regular budget in the amount of 331,000 United States dollars;

11. *Decides* to approve an additional appropriation in the amount of 35,400 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount of income under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007;

12. *Notes* that the Secretary-General will submit a request for resources in the context of the support account budget for 2007-2008;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consult with staff, including staff representatives, in the development of mobility policies;

14. *Requests* the International Civil Service Commission, within its mandate, to continue to keep under review the question of mobility in the United Nations common system, including its implications for career development, and to make recommendations to the General Assembly, as appropriate, in the context of its annual reports;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to ensure that mobility is not used as an instrument of coercion against staff and to ensure that appropriate monitoring and accountability measures are in place;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-third session on specific measures taken to facilitate mobility between the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and on results achieved;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the use of incentives with a view to encouraging staff to move to duty stations with chronically high vacancy rates;

18. *Acknowledges* that mobility needs to be supported through greater efforts to improve conditions of life and work at the various duty stations;

19. *Invites* host countries, as appropriate, to review their policies for granting work permits to spouses of United Nations staff;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways of assisting spouses to find employment opportunities, in consultation with host Governments where necessary, including by taking measures to expedite the issuance of work permits;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide career counselling and job-search assistance; to explore telecommuting options for spouses; to give spouses priority consideration for consulting opportunities, where appropriate; to give priority to the relocation of spouses within the managed mobility programme, subject to the availability of suitable posts and satisfactory performance; and to support the creation of inter-agency spouse support networks at all duty stations;

22. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to provide staff with more specific training opportunities, with a view to preparing staff for diverse

responsibilities, working in different departments, offices, duty stations or peacekeeping missions and moving across occupational groups;

V

Career development and support

1. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to enhance career progress within the Secretariat by facilitating career development;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of defining the target and strategy of training and career development;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-third session on staff development policy and the priority of staff development, taking into account the impact of the retirement of many senior staff in the near future;

4. *Notes* that training is important for the staff and the Organization, also notes, recalling paragraph 57 of its resolution 57/305, that the Secretariat should fully use existing resources, and decides to appropriate an additional 3 million dollars specifically devoted to leadership and management development, information technology training, upgrading of substantive skills and expansion of languages and communication;

5. *Decides* to revert to the subject of appropriation for training resources in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate the resources for training on the basis of needs and in an equitable manner, throughout the Secretariat, including for duty stations and regional commissions, and in this context stresses that equal training opportunities should be available for all staff, in accordance with their functions and categories;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that programme managers prepare calendars of training of staff working under their supervision on a periodic basis;

8. *Stresses* that workshops, seminars and training courses should take advantage of the diverse sources of training opportunities available throughout the regions of the world;

VI

Contractual arrangements

1. *Notes* that the existing system of contractual arrangements does not fully comply with the proposed International Civil Service Commission framework;[4]

2. *Requests* the International Civil Service Commission to consider the proposals of the Secretary-General, in particular the proposal to introduce one United Nations staff contract under one set of staff rules, and to report to it thereon at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

3. *Stresses* the need for rationalization of the current United Nations system of contractual arrangements, which lacks transparency and is complex to administer;

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/60/30 and Corr.1).

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 49 to 56 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administration and Budgetary Questions;[2]

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present a detailed road map on the implementation of the proposed contractual arrangements, including on eligibility criteria, at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

6. *Decides* to continue to suspend until 30 June 2007 the application of the four-year limit for appointments of limited duration under the 300 series of the Staff Rules in peacekeeping operations;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind paragraph 6 above, to reappoint under the 100 series of the Staff Rules those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts has reached the four-year limit by 30 June 2007, provided that their functions have been reviewed and found necessary and their performance has been confirmed as fully satisfactory, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it thereon at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

VII
Harmonization of conditions of service

1. *Recalls* section X, paragraph 5, of its resolution 59/266, in which it requested the International Civil Service Commission to present an analysis of the desirability and feasibility of harmonizing conditions of service in the field;

2. *Notes* that the International Civil Service Commission has established a working group to review conditions of service of internationally recruited staff serving in non-family duty stations, and requests the Commission to submit a report to it thereon at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to invite the executive heads to support the work of the Commission by ensuring full and timely compliance with the Commission's request for information;

4. *Takes note* of the proposals of the Secretary-General on harmonization of conditions of service for non-family duty stations, and decides to revert to the issues at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session, following issuance of the report of the International Civil Service Commission;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to it on the issue, including possible financial implications, if any, at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

VIII
Reform of the field service

Notes the proposal of the Secretary-General to provide for peacekeeping staffing on an ongoing basis and enhance professionalism and the ability of the United Nations to respond quickly to peacekeeping needs by designating a cadre of continuing civilian positions from within existing capacity, and requests him to submit to it proposals for the operation of the proposed cadre at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session, taking into account the views and observations of the

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 70 to 77 of its report;[2]

IX
Building leadership and management capacity

1. *Encourages* a more rigorous and systematic approach to selection at the Under-Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General and Director levels, in order to incorporate skilful leadership and management, with due regard to geographical representation and gender balance in the selection of candidates for those positions;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-third session on the findings and outcomes of this rigorous and systematic approach, as well as on concrete measures to recruit and appoint nationals from unrepresented and underrepresented States, in particular developing countries, including at such senior levels as Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General;

3. *Emphasizes* that training should not only improve the managerial skills of senior officers but should also serve to update and complement their substantive knowledge on various United Nations core mandates;

X
Measures to improve equitable geographic distribution

1. *Notes* the progress made since 1994 in reducing the number of countries that are unrepresented and underrepresented;

2. *Also notes* that the number of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States has increased since 2002;

3. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the situation of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States and of those in danger of becoming underrepresented under the system of desirable ranges;

4. *Notes with concern* that the total number of staff from underrepresented Member States and their proportion to the total number of staff in posts subject to geographical distribution decreased in the period between 2002 and 2006, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

5. *Welcomes* the analysis of the level of underrepresentation in the report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the Secretariat;[3]

6. *Regrets* the current insufficient accountability of heads of departments in achieving equitable geographical distribution in the Secretariat;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his ongoing efforts to attain equitable geographic distribution in the Secretariat and to ensure as wide a geographical distribution of staff as possible in all departments and offices of the Secretariat;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to post information regarding the human resources action plans on the United Nations website and to report to it thereon in the context of the Management Performance Board report;

9. *Recalls* section II, paragraph 38, of its resolution 57/305 and section IV, paragraph 5, of its resolution 59/266, takes note of the information contained in

table 5 of the report of the Secretary-General,[3] and expresses its concern over the decline in the number of nationals from developing countries at the senior and policymaking levels, as well as the imbalance in different departments of the Secretariat;

10. *Notes* that the system of geographic ranges was designed to apply to countries rather than to regions or groups;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, through the Management Performance Board, the monitoring of the implementation of human resources action plans, including the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the Secretariat at all levels as set out in relevant General Assembly resolutions, and the verification of the effective application of measures of transparency and accountability, including in the selection, recruitment and placement processes;

12. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to increase recruitment from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States and to undertake outreach efforts designed to avoid countries from falling under those categories, urges the Secretary-General, to the extent possible, to take the necessary steps to reduce the number of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States in the composition of the Secretariat by 20 per cent by 2008 and by 30 per cent by 2010, compared to the level in 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it thereon on a regular basis from the sixty-third session, as appropriate;

13. *Recalls* section IV, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/266, decides to continue the fast-track roster for an additional two-year period, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it on the effectiveness of the roster at its sixty-third session;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure, at the senior and policymaking levels of the Secretariat, equitable representation of Member States, especially those with inadequate representation at those levels, and to continue to include relevant information thereon in all future reports on the composition of the Secretariat;

15. *Regrets* that the Secretary-General has not succeeded in complying with the provisions of its resolutions 41/206 B of 11 December 1986, 53/221, 55/258, 57/305 and 59/266, in which it declared that no post should be considered the exclusive preserve of any Member State or group of States, including at the highest levels, reiterates its request that the Secretary-General ensure that, as a general rule, no national of a Member State succeeds a national of that State in a senior post and that there is no monopoly on senior posts by nationals of any State or group of States, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it thereon at its sixty-third session;

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General[5] on a comprehensive assessment of the system of geographical distribution and assessment of the issues relating to possible changes in the number of posts subject to that system;

17. *Reiterates* its requests to the Secretary-General to present proposals to effectively increase the representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, and decides to revert to this issue at its sixty-third session;

---

[5] A/59/724.

18. *Reaffirms* that the system of desirable ranges is the mechanism for recruitment of staff in posts subject to geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

19. *Considers* that encouragement of recruitment from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States shall not disallow other qualified candidates from competing;

20. *Affirms* that measures on meeting organizational mandates, accountability targets and indicators of achievement, with respect to geographical distribution of staff contained in human resources action plans and recruitment procedures including selection decisions, shall fully correspond to the provisions contained in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter as well as in relevant General Assembly mandates;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the designation of posts in the radio and website management sections of the Department of Public Information to consider whether they should be treated as language posts and to report to the Assembly thereon at its sixty-second session for its consideration, including on the possible human resources, administrative and financial implications;

XI

Gender representation

1. *Reaffirms* the goal of 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter, and regrets that progress towards attaining this goal has been slow;

2. *Expresses concern* at the continuing low proportion of women in the Secretariat, in particular the low proportion among them of women from developing countries, especially at the senior levels, and stresses that the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, should be taken into account and that those women should be accorded equal opportunities in the recruitment process, in full conformity with relevant resolutions;

3. *Notes with concern* that, in posts subject to the system of desirable ranges, 25 women from developing countries were recruited between 1 July 2005 and 30 June 2006 among the 83 women appointed during that period;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to increase his efforts to attain and monitor the goal of gender parity in the Secretariat, in particular at senior levels, and in this context to ensure that women, especially those from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, are appropriately represented within the Secretariat, and to report to the General Assembly thereon at its sixty-third session;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of attaining this goal, to develop and implement recruitment targets, time frames for meeting those targets and accountability measures;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to clarify the role of departmental focal points, including in the context of the staff selection system, and their

participation in the development and monitoring of the departmental human resource action plans;

7. *Encourages* Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary-General by identifying more women candidates and encouraging them to apply for appointment to positions in the Secretariat and by creating awareness among their nationals, in particular women, of vacancies in the Secretariat;

XII
Accountability

1. *Takes note* of the report[6] of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Ethics Office;

2. *Also takes note* of the report[7] of the Secretary-General on the Management Performance Board;

3. *Reiterates* the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to achieve greater transparency at all levels;

5. *Recognizes* the role of the Office of Human Resources Management in supporting the Secretary-General in holding programme managers accountable, and requests continuing strengthening of that role;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present proposals for enforcing the implementation of human resources policies and action plan objectives and to report to it thereon at its sixty-third session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a proposal for the use of incentives and sanctions as an integral part of the personnel management system, bearing in mind the relevant work of the International Civil Service Commission, for consideration at its sixty-third session;

8. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Management Performance Board to strengthen the accountability framework of senior managers so as to ensure that they are properly undertaking the responsibilities that have been entrusted to them, including their performance in achieving the objectives contained in human resources action plans;

9. *Stresses* that a fair, transparent and effective administration of justice system is an essential feature of proper accountability;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve accountability and responsibility in the reform of human resources management as well as the monitoring and control mechanisms and procedures and to report to it on action taken in this regard at its sixty-third session;

---

[6] A/61/274.
[7] A/61/319.

XIII
Human resources information technology

1. *Notes* the proposals of the Secretary-General on investing in information and communication technology;

2. *Endorses* paragraph 68 of the report[2] of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the new information technology infrastructure will be compatible with the new system approved in section II of resolution 60/283;

3. *Notes* the efforts made by the Secretary-General to make the human resources management information technology system available in both working languages of the Secretariat, and invites the Secretary-General to continue those efforts;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it on the implementation of the human resources information technology system at its sixty-third session;

XIV
Staff buyout

Takes note of paragraph 64 of the report[2] of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides not to pursue the proposal of the Secretary-General on the staff buyout;

XV
Consultants and individual contractors

1. *Reaffirms* section XI of its resolution 59/266;

2. *Takes note* of the report[8] of the Secretary-General on consultants and individual contractors;

3. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 88 to 90 of its report;[2]

4. *Takes note* of the report[9] of the Secretary-General on comprehensive policy guidelines for consultants in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

XVI
Employment of retired former staff

1. *Notes with concern* the continuous trend of hiring staff retirees for extended periods of time;

2. *Endorses* paragraph 84 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

[8] A/61/257/Add.3.
[9] A/61/201.

XVII
Other matters

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, contained in resolution 60/238, to report to it at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of officials other than Secretariat officials and experts on mission;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present, in consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, proposals to address the imbalance in the geographical distribution of the staff in that Office at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session;

3. *Decides* to revert to this issue at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session.

United Nations A/61/660–S/2006/1015

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 December 2006

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 17 and 27

Security Council
Sixty-first year

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 20 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the unofficial translation of the statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey on 10 December 2006, on the "referendum" held in the Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, under occupation by Armenia (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 17 and 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Baki **İlkin**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-67812 (E) 221206

Annex to the letter dated 20 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey on 10 December 2006, on the "referendum" held in the Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, under occupation by Armenia

(Unofficial translation)

Turkey took note that a referendum on a draft "Nagorno Karabakh Constitution" was held on 10 December 2006, in disregard of international law and the will of the international community, in the Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, under occupation by Armenia. Turkey has been informed that, as a result of the so-called referendum and in accordance with the "Nagorno Karabakh Constitution", the Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan would be defined as the "Nagorno Karabakh Republic", with the attributes of a "sovereign, democratic, legal and social State".

Turkey does not recognize the outcome of this unilateral initiative, representing the flagrant Armenian invasion, in violation of international law, continuing on the territory of friendly and brotherly Azerbaijan. Turkey condemns Armenia's action, which constitutes a new violation of Azerbaijan's political unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

As a result of Armenia's continuing occupation of the Nagorno Karabakh region, representing 20 per cent of Azerbaijan's territory, together with the seven neighbouring administrative regions and in violation of international law, more than 1 million Azerbaijani people have become refugees or internally displaced persons in their own country. At a moment when the negotiations are being pursued within the framework of the Minsk Process to find a peaceful settlement to the Nagorno Karabakh problem and to the Azerbaijani-Armenian conflict, the undertaking of a "constitutional referendum" in the Nagorno Karabakh region under occupation constitutes an initiative undermining the efforts for a peaceful settlement.

With these considerations, Turkey calls upon the international community to condemn and not to recognize the outcome of the "constitutional referendum", which would have no binding effect whatsoever under international law.

United Nations A/61/661

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 117
Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Standards of accommodation for air travel

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel (A/61/188 and Corr. 1). During its consideration of the report, the Committee met with a representative of the Secretary-General who provided additional information.

2. The report of the Secretary-General on the standards of accommodation for air travel was submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/214 of 21 December 1987 and other subsequent resolutions and decisions. The report of the Secretary-General provides information on standards of accommodation for air travel for the two-year period ended 30 June 2006 and comparative statistics for the two-year period ended 30 June 2004.

3. The standards of air travel at the United Nations are governed by a series of General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including resolutions 42/214, 45/248 A and 53/214,[1] and decisions 40/555, 44/442, 46/450 and 57/589. Pursuant to the discretionary authority vested in the Secretary-General to authorize exceptions to air travel on a case-by-case basis and business-class travel by air in special circumstances that warrant it, the Secretary-General has promulgated administrative instructions for the purpose of implementing the various staff rules relating to the standards of accommodation for air travel and the exceptions thereto, the most recent of which is ST/AI/2006/4.

4. The Advisory Committee notes that for the 2004 to 2006 period, the number of exceptions to the standards of accommodation for air travel for the United Nations and United Nations entities totalled 217, representing an additional cost of $451,930, or an average cost of $2,082 per trip. This compares to 236 exceptions at

[1] In resolution 53/214, sect. IV, para. 14, the General Assembly decided that the President of the Assembly should have full authority to use the funds provided by the budget for the Office of the President, including travel.

06-67904 (E) 050107

an additional cost of $442,472 for the 2002 to 2004 period, or an average cost of $1,875 per trip (see A/61/188 and Corr.1, tables 1-4). **The Committee is of the opinion that exceptions should be carefully scrutinized. To this end, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly request an audit by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of all categories of exceptions authorized within the framework of standards of accommodation for air travel.**

5. With regard to exceptions allowing first-class travel, the Advisory Committee notes from the report and from supplementary information provided to it that many of the exceptions are granted to senior United Nations staff, to staff from other United Nations entities and to visiting officials. The Committee recalls paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 42/214, in which the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to exercise his discretion in making exceptions to allow first-class travel on a case-by-case basis. The Committee also recalls its latest report on the matter (A/59/573, para. 10), in which it noted:

> ... the time has come for a reconsideration of the whole question of first-class travel. The Committee observes that in recent years, many airlines have significantly cut back, if not entirely eliminated, first-class sections on aircraft. Instead, several varieties of enhanced business-class travel have been developed, and it appears that differences in the level of accommodation between these classes and first class are minimal. Taking these developments into account, the General Assembly may wish to give further guidance on the future use of first-class travel with a view to its use in only the most exceptional circumstances.

6. In this context, the Advisory Committee also recalls its recent report on conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials (A/61/612 and Corr.1), in which it notes in paragraph 14 that first-class air travel is now restricted to a limited number of cases, and most senior officials are authorized to travel in the class immediately below first class. The Committee further notes that this change has occurred at the same time that market offers for business-class travel have increased, and even replaced, in some cases, first-class travel.

7. **The Advisory Committee believes that first-class travel should be limited to the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General. The Assembly may therefore wish to consider a revision of the policy stated in its resolution 42/214 (see also below).**

8. **Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the review of the standards of travel and entitlements for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/255 (section IV, para. 2) with a view to adopting a common policy at the United Nations system level was in preparation and would be submitted to the Assembly for consideration at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session.** In this connection, the Committee was informed that the International Civil Service Commission would not provide additional information beyond what is already available to the Assembly.